

PERSONAL STATEMENTS FROM THREE CURRENT SGR ADVISORS WHO WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE IN THEIR ROLES

Marion Hersh

I believe that scientists and engineers have a responsibility to use their expertise to benefit society and the environment and rectify the damage caused in the past. This includes climate change and nuclear weapons, both caused by human activity.

I am a long-term member of SGR and actively involved in my trade union and other campaigning organisations. I am a senior lecturer in biomedical engineering at Glasgow University with a first degree in mathematics and PhD in control engineering and speak eight languages reasonably fluently.

I have researched in several areas of interest to SGR, including ethics of military work and, more recently social impacts and ethics of AI, have edited and contributed to a book on ethical engineering, and coauthored a book of ethics and human behaviour with mainly ICT case studies.

I can both focus on detail and make links and see connections that others often miss. Having been an Advisor for a year I now know a lot more about both all the very important work SGR is doing and its internal workings. I am therefore eager to continue as an Advisor.

Philip Inglesant

I am seeking re-election to the SGR Advisory Board. I have been very inspired by the activities of SGR, with a reach and impact far beyond to the small size of the organisation.

My background is in computing. I worked for many years with GreenNet, a not-for-profit Internet Service Provider supporting peace, the environment and human rights. At that time I was involved with Electronics and Computing for Peace, one of the predecessor organisations of SGR.

More recently, I have been researching Responsible Innovation in quantum computing and Artificial Intelligence. I am passionate about the importance of social responsibility in science, and in keeping military influence out of universities.

I bring to SGR my experience in working and researching in these areas. With the massive explosion of AI, the social and environmental implications of this is now an urgent area of work.

Fiona McOwan

I joined SGR while I was a chemistry teacher at a high school in Fife as I was so pleased to find an organisation of scientists who believed that we need to protect the planet and its peoples. I retired from this post in 2019 which has given me more time to be involved in my main interests. Their values align with those of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF UK) for whom I am currently National Secretary.

I am anti-war and militarism, anti-continuing fossil fuel extraction, anti-nuclear for energy or warfare. I am for renewable energy, with arms manufacturers and oil workers transitioning to research and making the complex parts for renewables infrastructure.

Having been an advisor for two years, nothing has changed my mind, and I am keen to support the Board by amplifying messages, contributing ideas and spreading knowledge of SGR to my wider contacts in the education field, and occasionally writing thought pieces for the website and journal.